Claims

1. A deflector for deflecting runoff on an upper surface of a vehicle parked at a loading dock that is adjacent to a building wall, the deflector comprising:

a frame attachable to the building wall;

a seal in front of the building wall and being vertically and horizontally movable to engage the upper surface of the vehicle;

a front bumper in front of the seal to help protect the seal from vehicular impact and to help lift the seal onto the vehicle; and

a hanger that suspends the seal from the frame, wherein the hanger comprises a pliable panel.

2. The deflector of claim 1, wherein hanger limits the seal from continual rotation about itself.

3. The deflector of claim 1, wherein the pliable panel extends around the seal.

4. The deflector of claim 1, wherein the front bumper comprises a first panel and a second panel that are movable relative to each other.

5. The deflector of claim 4, wherein the first panel is more flexible than the second panel.

6. The deflector of claim 4, wherein the front bumper comprises a third panel that is movable relative to the first panel and the second panel.

7. The deflector of claim 1, wherein the front bumper can yield more readily in a forward direction away from the building wall than in a rearward direction toward the building wall when the deflector is attached to the building wall.

8. The deflector of claim 1, wherein the front bumper includes a curved distal edge that helps prevent the vehicle from damaging the deflector as the vehicle departs the loading dock.

9. A deflector for deflecting runoff on an upper surface of a vehicle parked at a loading dock that is adjacent to a building wall, the deflector comprising:

a frame attachable to the building wall such that the frame can pivot relative thereto;

a seal in front of the building wall and being vertically and horizontally movable to engage the upper surface of the vehicle;

a hanger that suspends the seal from the frame; and

a flexible member engaging the frame and held in tension to limit downward pivotal movement of the frame.

10. The deflector of claim 9, wherein the flexible member is a pliable sheet that overlays the frame, whereby the pliable sheet and the frame provide a canopy.

11. The deflector of claim 9, further comprising a pliable panel that suspends the seal from the frame.

12. The deflector of claim 9, further comprising a front bumper suspended by the frame in front of the seal to help protect the seal from vehicular impact and to help lift the seal onto the vehicle.

13. The deflector of claim 12, wherein the front bumper comprises a first panel and a second panel that are movable relative to each other.

14. The deflector of claim 13, wherein the first panel is more flexible than the second panel.

15. The deflector of claim 12, wherein the front bumper can yield more readily in a forward direction away from the building wall than in a rearward direction toward the building wall when the deflector is attached to the building wall.

16. A deflector for deflecting runoff on an upper surface of a vehicle parked at a loading dock that is adjacent to a building wall, the deflector comprising:

a frame attachable to the building wall;

a seal in front of the building wall and being vertically and horizontally movable to engage the upper surface of the vehicle;

a front bumper in front of the seal to help protect the seal from vehicular impact and to help lift the seal onto the vehicle; and

a flexible hanger that suspends the seal from the frame, wherein the hanger limits the seal from continual rotation about itself.

17. The deflector of claim 16, wherein the front bumper comprises a first panel and a second panel that are movable relative to each other.

18. The deflector of claim 17, wherein the first panel is more flexible than the second panel.

19. The deflector of claim 17, wherein the front bumper comprises a third panel that is movable relative to the first panel and the second panel.

20. The deflector of claim 16, wherein the front bumper can yield more readily in one direction than in an opposite direction.

21. The deflector of claim 16, wherein the front bumper includes a curved distal edge that helps prevent the vehicle from damaging the deflector as the vehicle departs the loading dock.

22. A deflector for deflecting runoff on an upper surface of a vehicle parked at a loading dock that is adjacent to a building wall, the deflector comprising:

a frame attachable to the building wall;

a seal in front of the building wall and being vertically and horizontally movable to place a peripheral surface of the seal in sealing contact with the upper surface of the vehicle;

a front bumper in front of the seal to help protect the seal from vehicular impact and to help lift the seal onto the vehicle;

a back bumper in back of the front bumper to act as a load bearing surface against which the front bumper can push as the vehicle enters the loading dock; and

a hanger that suspends the seal, the front bumper, and the back bumper from the frame such that the seal extends appreciably farther forward than the back bumper when the frame is attached to the building wall.

23. The deflector of claim 22, wherein the back bumper is more rigidly attached than is the front bumper.

24. The deflector of claim 22, wherein the hanger comprises a pliable panel.

25. The deflector of claim 24, wherein the pliable panel extends around the seal.

26. The deflector of claim 22, wherein the front bumper comprises a first panel and a second panel that are movable relative to each other.

27. The deflector of claim 26, wherein the first panel is more flexible than the second panel.

28. The deflector of claim 26, wherein the front bumper comprises a third panel that is movable relative to the first panel and the second panel.

29. The deflector of claim 22, wherein the front bumper can yield more readily in a forward direction away from the building wall than in a rearward direction toward the building wall when the deflector is attached to the building wall.

30. The deflector of claim 22, wherein the hanger defines a pivotal axis about which the seal is able to rotate, and wherein two converging imaginary planes extend tangentially from the peripheral surface of the seal to the pivotal axis such that the peripheral surface and the two converging imaginary lines define a region in which the back bumper is fully contained.